

**From:** County of SLO Planning Dept.  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2016 1:29 PM  
**To:** Ryan Hostetter; Ramona Hedges  
**Subject:** FW: Phillips 66 / Union Pacific - Lax on Safety System

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**From:** David Broadwater  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2016 8:28:44 PM (UTC+00:00) Monrovia, Reykjavik  
**To:** Frank Mecham; Bruce Gibson; Adam Hill; Lynn Compton; Debbie Arnold; Board of Supervisors  
**Cc:** County of SLO Planning Dept.; Ellen Carroll  
**Subject:** Phillips 66 / Union Pacific - Lax on Safety System

SLO Co. Board of Supervisors  
cc: Planning Department  
re: Phillips 66 Rail Spur Proposal / Union Pacific Safety

Today's Federal Railroad Administration report shows how Union Pacific Railroad is far behind in implementing Positive Train Control, endangering those living and working near the tracks. Union Pacific is below overall freight railroad implementation in all five categories of PTC:

Locomotives Equipped - All Freight - 34% / UP - 0%  
Route Miles in PTC Operation - All Freight - 9% / UP - 0%  
Track Segments Completed - All Freight - 11% / UP - 7%  
Radio Towers Installed - All Freight - 73% / UP - 69%  
Training Completed - All Freight - 42% / UP - 10%

Although SLO County doesn't have control over railroads, it behooves all officials to incorporate reports like this into their decision-making. The safety of the public and the environment depend on you being as well-informed as possible.

See the links below.

David Broadwater  
Atascadero

<http://www.sanluisobispo.com/news/business/technology/article96133347.html>

SLO Tribune

8-17-16

### **Railroads show little progress on key safety technology**

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The technology, called positive train control or PTC, uses digital radio communications, GPS and signals alongside tracks to monitor train positions. It can automatically stop or slow trains to prevent them from disobeying signals, derailing due to excessive speed, colliding with another train or entering track that is off-limits.

The Federal Railroad Administration report shows that while some railroads have made substantial progress, others have yet to equip a single locomotive or track segment with the technology, or install a single radio tower.

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... Sarah Feinberg, head of the railroad administration.

"Every day that passes without PTC, we risk adding another preventable accident to a list that is already too long," she said in a statement.

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... Union Pacific has equipped only 13 of its 5,656 locomotives.

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The NTSB has urged railroads to install positive train control or earlier train control technologies for more than four decades.

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<http://www.fra.dot.gov/eLib/Details/L18326>

Federal Railroad Administration

8-17-16

Press Release

### **New Status Update Underscores Need for Continued Positive Train Control Implementation and Funding**

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Today's status update includes railroad-by-railroad quarterly data as of June 30, 2016, on track segments completed, employees trained, radio towers installed, route miles in PTC operation and other key implementation data.

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<http://www.fra.dot.gov/eLib/details/L18325>

Federal Railroad Administration

8-17-16

Report to Congress

Federal Railroad Administration

### **Status Update on Positive Train Control Implementation**

August 2016

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#### **6. Status of PTC Implementation and Individual Railroad PTC Implementation Status**

The appendices in this report show each railroad's status in implementing PTC according to the most recent information provided by the railroads. The three pictographs visually depict: (1) each railroad's targeted full PTC implementation year as reported to FRA; (2) the overall implementation status of the railroad industry broken down by freight and passenger railroads; and (3) the implementation status of each railroad required to implement PTC.

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## 8. Appendixes

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### Figure 2: PTC Implementation Status by Freight and Passenger Rail

Route Miles in PTC Operation - Freight - 9%

Track Segments Completed - Freight - 11%

Locomotives Equipped - Freight - 34%

Training Completed - Freight - 42%

Radio Towers Installed - Freight - 73%

### Figure 3: Railroad-by-Railroad PTC Implementation Status

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UP - Union Pacific

Locomotives Equipped - 0%

Track Segments Completed - 7%

Radio Towers Installed - 69%

Training Completed - 10%

Route Miles in PTC Operation - 0%

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